WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47) was recently appointed by former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to serve on the Board of Directors of the Vietnamese Education Foundation (VEF). The mission of the VEF is to help Vietnam build excellence in science and technology and, by doing so, bring the United States and Vietnam closer together. In her new role, Rep. Sanchez will explore new opportunities for scientific cooperation and development between the U.S. and Vietnam. Her term as a board member will last for three years.

"I am honored to have been nominated to serve on the Vietnamese Education Foundation," said Rep. Sanchez, who is Co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Vietnam. "In Congress, I have always fought for the issues that are important to Vietnamese-Americans, including strengthening education, cutting taxes for the middle class, increasing lending to small businesses, and expanding basic human rights in Vietnam. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the VEF to create positive change in Vietnam and new opportunities for growth and advancement in the U.S."

"I recognize that higher education reform in Vietnam will be a long and challenging process," Rep. Sanchez continued. "All education systems should be based on individual merits, transparency, and opportunity. I look forward to working with leaders in the Vietnamese community to create positive change in Vietnam and provide new opportunities for growth and advancement in the U.S."

The VEF is an independent federal agency created by the U.S. Congress. Its mission is to strengthen the U.S.-Vietnam bilateral relationship through educational exchanges in science and technology. The organization is governed by a board of directors that includes U.S. Cabinet members, senators, representatives, and Presidential appointees. The VEF's headquarters are located in Washington D.C., with a representative office in Hanoi, Vietnam.